

'MOSCOW NEWS'-85: tournament of hopes, experiments

(Continued from page 1)

Andre Radionenko, chief coach of the USSR women's team, and Lydia Ivanova, state coach of the USSR Sports Committee, made some corrections to the compositions. The circle of challengers has been narrowed. In the women's team—Yelena Shushunova, Oksana Omelyanchik, Natalya Prolova (of them we wrote in issue No. 22) and Oksana Averkova. Oksana is a Muscovite. Born in 1970. She is an award winner at the national Spartakiad of schoolchildren.

The coaches stressed the extremely complex programmes of Shushunova in all the events, of Omelyanchik on the beam and of Prolova's floor exercise and the vault.

In the men's team—Mikhail Kukorin, Sergei Gusev, Vladimir Gogoladze (see No. 22) and a new candidate—Valentin Mogilny (1965). He is from the town of Lvovsk-Kuznetsky. Despite his youth, he did excellently in national and international events, and is an aspirant to the first national team.

Answering questions on the forthcoming official contests of this season, specialists pointed out that all the strongest sportsmen of the country are studiously preparing for them. The decisive word on the selection of candidates to the European championship belongs to the national championship starting on April 10. Incidentally, the next European championship will be held in Moscow (both men's and women's). The place of holding—the Olimpiyskiy sports complex. One more detail: at the paper prize, placed on the platform will be an unusual mat on

spring. This is also an experiment. The mat is home-made. Special interest is aroused by the world championship in Montreal in November. There, after a two-year interval (after 1983), sportsmen representing the strongest countries in this sport will meet. But before this there will be an Universiade in Japan. The candidates to the national women's team are Natalya Yurchenko, Olga Bicherova, Tatyana Prolova. But we will talk of it later.

During the meeting the coaches were unanimous that the forthcoming paper prize contest will be very valuable. "We teach and they teach us," the performance of foreign sportsmen are always interesting. In each of them one can find an unusual detail.

On March 29 Soviet sportsmen will attend a meeting, to be held under the motto—"Gymnastics in the Struggle for Peace". This will happen not as part of the tournament, but each foreign sportsman may take part in it.



Valentin Rozanov who designed the main prizes for allround winners in the women's and men's events. Photo by Konstantin Borisov

We remind you of the competition schedule in the Olimpiyskiy sports complex:

- March 29—Opening of the tournament at 5 p.m.
- Men's competition in the overall free programme.
- March 30—Women's competition in the overall free programme 5 p.m.
- March 31—Women's and men's finals. 1 p.m.
- The closing of the tournament at 3 p.m.
- March 31—Additional finals in the Izmailovo Palace of Sport.



The cultural programme of the industrial show of the Baden-Württemberg Land (West Germany) in Moscow featured friendly matches between Soviet and FRG sportsmen. Pictured are a team fencing match won by the visitors and a handball game in which CAC beat the West Germans 34-24. Photos by Sergei Proshkov and Yuri Tutov



Soviet football specialists (left to right) Alexei Paramonov, and Kachalin and Viktor Tsaryov at the show. Photo by Boris Kuznetsov

Meeting with French football

"French football is 100"—such is the theme of a show which was recently held in Moscow. On display were interesting photos, posters telling of the appearance of football in France, its development and the present day. Incidentally, the first documentary testimony of football in the country is represented by the photo of 1888, which features the meeting of lovers of this sport in Bois de Boulogne.

The interest in football these days is very great, said at a

press conference devoted to the show representative of the French embassy Philippe de Sureau. But the importance of this transcends the football work. French sport lovers in the Soviet school of physical culture and your sportsmen have things to learn from another, for sports links between our countries have durable traditions. Events like this sport still further strengthen our friendly contacts.

Sergei YAKOVLEV

Again at the chess board

It seems that the Moscow match for the world chess "crown" ended only recently but one of its participants, triple world champion Anatoly Karpov has already managed to visit Krasnoyarsk Territory, where he attended the opening of a new chess club.

Several years ago he already visited this Territory and also took part in the opening of new people's clubs of the fans of chess.

After the match he also continued his work as Chairman of the Soviet Peace Fund.

Crystal Cups with Girardelli and Fignat

Marc Girardelli of Luxembourg has won ahead of schedule the overall victory in the world Alpine skiing cup when his main rival Pirmin Zurbriggen of Switzerland dropped out during a special slalom in Park City, USA, after the first attempt. 21-year-old Girardelli won the grand Crystal Cup and has 15 world cup stage wins with 262 points, he is far ahead of his rival.

Zurbriggen was gracious in accepting the loss of his overall crown: Girardelli is a very

good winner for the world cup he said. He is the best because he won slalom and had a downhill result.

Zurbriggen places second with 233 points, and Andre Kneifel of Liechtenstein came third with 172.

The women's overall winner still more convincingly with 259 points against 219 for her competitors Evi Cattini and Maria Wallner.

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POLITBUREAU WEEKLY MEETING

The Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee discussed at its latest meeting a programme of technical renovation and reconstruction of thermal electric stations of the USSR Ministry of the Power Industry and Electrification for 1985-1990.

In accordance with the Main Guidelines for the Reform of General Education and Vocational Training and the national programme for the creation and development of production, effective use of computers and automated systems aimed at providing computer training for pupils in secondary educational institutions and large-scale introduction of electronic computer studies in their curriculum.

In connection with proposals made by working people to the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers, the Politbureau directed that measures be worked out to further improve health services and social welfare facilities for citizens and also to encourage collective fruit and vegetable gardening by factory and office workers.

The Politbureau heard and approved a report by Comrade Mikhail Gorbachev on his discussions with the Second Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, Raul Castro.

It was stressed that the exchange of opinions during the discussions was yet another confirmation of the unanimity in the views of our parties and countries on all the questions concerning the past war.

(Continued on page 2)

WHY WE RECALL THE PAST WAR?

There is fear in the United States over worsening relations with the Soviet Union. Rev. Norman A. Hjeltn, Director of the Lutheran World Federation, Department of Communication in Geneva, told an MNI correspondent. He is in Moscow with twenty other church publishers from Western Europe and the United States to attend a seminar of the Moscow Patriarchy. The seminar is devoted to the 40th anniversary of Victory Day.

Many people have begun to think about how Soviet-American relations could be improved. I think there is hope in the new talks in Geneva. Because we had not been hurt so much some of us may suspect that a new war will come earlier than it will and that only by the path of strength peace can be reached. It is not my personal position. Others of us (including me) who are equally deep in love for our country, feel that different ways of peace and sacrifice must be found. Therefore we use the

memory of the war and the experience of those who suffered much more than we did.

We went to the Kremlin, and saw the cathedral. We saw the beautiful museums, churches, Rev. Hjeltn continued. It is clear that freedom to worship and to study the worship is very much present in the Soviet Union. I saw no signs of opposition to that.

The guests of the Moscow Patriarchy have also visited Leningrad, Voronezh and Zagorsk.

Marina AMAROVA

• Reverend Norman A. Hjeltn.

'MOSCOW NEWS'-85 PRIZE



"Moscow News" editors and the USSR Gymnastics Federation welcome the participants and guests of the 12th international gymnastics competition.

- Gymnasts from 30 countries are competing at the roofed stadium of the Olimpiyskiy sports complex.
- In the three days of the

contest (March 29-31) the gymnasts are competing for two major prizes in the allround event (in the free programme alone) and the paper's prizes in individual events.

• Entrants who fail to make the main finals in the Olimpiyskiy will compete in individual events on the last day of the tournament in the gym of the Moscow Physical Culture Institute.

• Apart from the paper's prizes and medals of the USSR Gymnastics Federation awarded to the top three, individual sportsmen will be awarded souvenirs of V/O Mezhdunarodnaya Kniga, the all-Union society of book-lovers. The "World Gymnastics" magazine will award its prize to the most charming sportsman.

• A noticeable interest in the event is manifested by journalists. Accredited at the press centre are over 200 Soviet and foreign journalists representing news agencies, central papers, magazines, radio and TV.

• As was stressed at a meeting with journalists by the president of the International Gymnastics Federation Yuri Tillov, the "Moscow News" Prize shows that, after the 1984 Summer Olympics, the international sports movement is striving for unity and cooperation.

• The tournament is the first stage of the selection of Soviet sportsmen for the European gymnastics championships (the women's takes place between May 10 and 12 in Helsinki and men's—June 1 and 3 in Oslo).

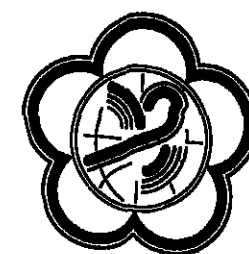
• The national championship due in Alma-Ata on April 16-23 is the second and last stage of the selection for the European championships.

• As the Moscow tournament continues, the International Gymnastics Federation is carrying out experiments in judging. They are being conducted simultaneously with the events and will enable the Federation to work out more objective criteria for judging the performances of gymnasts.

• The "Moscow News" tournament is not only the first event of the new season, but also occupies one of the most prominent places in the world calendar of gymnastics.

(See p. 6)

FESTIVAL PROGRAMME APPROVED



The 4th Meeting of the International Preparatory Committee (IPC) for the 12th International Festival of Youth and Students to be held in Moscow has adopted the programme of the Festival. It reflects the major issues involved in the struggle for peace, freedom and independence as well as the topical problems facing the youth.

Never before in the history of the Festival movement have the youths of the planet been so broadly represented in the preparation process of their forum, said Joan-Claude Kennedy, Coordinating Secretary of the IPC's Permanent Commission.

At present, he said, national preparatory committees have been set up in 118 countries and unite 2,300 different political, trade union, religious, cultural, and athletic associations and organizations. Never before has the Permanent Commission been so representative. Its members come from 34 countries and nine international youth and students' organizations.

What are the young people in India expecting from the Moscow Festival? This question was put by an MNI correspondent to a member of the Indian Parliament, General Secretary of the Indian Youth Congress (I), Harish Ravat.

We regard the Festival as a major event in the life of the world youth, he answered. Our friendship with the Soviet Union is very profound. This is only natural because all the expectations and desires of Indian and Soviet youths coincide as the cardinal problems of the world are concerned. We are clearly



Participants of the meeting.

Photo by Boris Kaulman

aware that today there is every favourable condition for development of relations between the young people in our two countries, and we are confident that the Festival will serve as another impetus in this direction.

What do you think about the youth meeting in Jamaica? What is your view on the fact that Communists were not invited to that country?

This is the second Festival, the preparations towards which are taking part in. Previously we did not quite believe in the political-positive character or in the possibility for broad contacts at such forums. We now think that our participation will be of value.

How democratic, in your view, are the organizational principles of the Festival?

We have some critical reservations on this score. However, we believe that inside the organization, there is an ample scope for action.

We have decided not to take part in the Jamaica Youth Symposium. We were not quite happy about the approach to the selection of its participants and the restrictions not only against Communists, but also other political forces and even nationalities which were artificially barred from the Symposium.

1984 was a record year

For the second time in our long history we are meeting in Moscow, said Sir John Mayhew-Sanders, President of the British-Soviet Chamber of Commerce, at the 69th annual general meeting of the BSCC.

The first meeting took place in 1933. It was extremely fruitful and we decided to hold our meetings in Moscow and London.

British statisticians stress that in 1983 the volume of bilateral trade significantly increased and hit a record level in 1984. British exports to the USSR increased by 65 per cent and imports from the USSR by 17 per cent.

The British-Soviet Chamber of Commerce (until 1978 the Russo-British Chamber of Commerce) was founded in 1910 to promote bilateral trade.

The effectiveness of the activities of the Chamber is attested by the large-scale participation in it by both British and Soviet firms and organizations.

Nearly 500 British companies and firms and 55 All-Union associations, as well as other organizations in the USSR are members of the Chamber.

The 69th meeting approved and charted ways for the development of bilateral Soviet-British trade relations.

This picture was taken in the Krasnaya Pressya exhibition pavilion in Moscow where the show "Agrotalia-85" is in progress. The firm A.C.M.A. mounted packaging machines for various products.



(For detailed story on the exhibition please turn to page 2.)

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MN INFORMATION

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THE WORLD

Fighting racism then and now

New York. Delegates who attended the 31st session of the UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination noted that the victory scored by the states in the anti-fascist coalition over fascism—an extreme manifestation of racial ideology—has great significance for the struggle against racism. In a statement issued at the final meeting the delegation stated that they highly

appreciated the routing of the Nazi hordes in World War II, which saved the world from fascist scourge and dealt a decisive blow to the racist ideology. They noted that the celebration of the 40th anniversary of the Victory over fascism should help mobilize the efforts of the international community to eradicate ideologies based on racial intolerance, hatred and terrorism.

TIME TO TACKLE BUSINESS

Vienna. A final meeting has been held here in the regular round of the Vienna talks on mutual reduction of armed forces and armaments in Central Europe. It was addressed by the leader of the delegation of the Polish People's Republic, S. Prygodski who noted that the main development of the present round has been the introduction by the socialist countries—direct participants of the negotiations, of a new proposal for an initial reduction by the Soviet Union and the United States of ground troops and subsequent renun-

ciation of increases in the levels of armed forces and armaments in this region.

He has again attracted attention to the constructive nature and the practical value of the initiative oriented towards ending with more rhetoric and getting down to the business of lowering the level of the military confrontation.

On behalf of the NATO members, the meeting was addressed by an American delegate whose speech contained no essential reply to the proposal made by the socialist states.

NATO nuclear planning approves 'star wars'

Luxemburg. By exerting pressure, the United States has succeeded in making a majority of their West European partners approve the American plans for the conduct of the "star wars". This is the main result of a regular NATO nuclear planning group session which was attended by defence ministers from the 13 NATO countries, without

France and Iceland. Spain was represented by an observer. In their final communiqué, the ministers speak about their support for the "strategic defence initiative" which allegedly meets the interests of NATO's security. They say they welcome the invitation Washington extended to its West European partners to take part in its development.



In my opinion, we should effect changes in this country.

Drawing by Yuri Ivanov

Secret agreement between Tel Aviv and Mogadishu

Luanda. In contravention of the resolutions of the OAU and the League of Arab States demanding an end to the criminal links of the states of the continent with Israel, the Mogadishu regime is building close contacts with Zionism.

According to the Angolan information agency ANGOP, in Tel Aviv, in a situation of most strict secrecy, an agreement was signed on cooperation between the two regimes in the military region. Within the framework of the criminal deal reached during a recent visit to Israel by a delegation led by chief of the Somali security service, General Abdirahman Abdi Hussein, Zionists will provide Mogadishu with advanced military equipment and arms. Israeli military instructors will also teach Somali combat techniques they acquired during aggression against Arab states, as well as subversive and terrorist acts and espionage.

POLITBUREAU WEEKLY MEETING

(Continued from page 1)

cerning Soviet-Cuban relations and vital international issues the continued solidarity of the CPSU and the Soviet state with socialist Cuba.

The Politbureau deliberated on and approved the results of Mikhail Gorbachev's meeting as well as the discussions of the CPSU delegation led by Comrade Boris Ponomarev with the Consultative Council of the Socialist International for the moment.

Noted with satisfaction as the friendly and constructive nature of the talks devoted to issues of vital importance to the entire mankind, such as the fight to end the arms race and the inadmissibility of carrying the race into outer space, to the boosting and development of nuclear arsenals and their radical reduction, to improve the international climate of development of friendly cooperation between states. Also noted was the readiness of the CPSU for active cooperation with all peace-loving forces, including parties to the Socialist International for the purpose of achieving these goals.

The Politbureau also deliberated on questions concerning further development of trade and economic links between the USSR and the People's Republic of China. It was stressed that growth in the volume of trade will be yet another step towards improving relations between the two nations.

Also discussed and approved was a programme of activities to mark in the USSR the Year of the United Nations Organization (1985) and the International Year of Peace (1986). The general essence of these activities is the boosting up of efforts at reducing international tensions and putting an end to the arms race. The Soviet Union has always attached great significance to the UN as a viable instrument of peace. It will continue to steadfastly pursue a policy which will ensure firm roots to the practice of international relations, for the fair, democratic principles on which the UN was founded 40 years ago when the Great Victory over fascism was won.

DISTURBANCE IN SUDAN

Cairo. In Khartoum, disturbances have broken out following a sharp increase in the prices of basic necessities. Police have been called in to disperse the demonstrators. The police have been called in to disperse the demonstrators. The police have been called in to disperse the demonstrators.

In short, the goal is one—to place the UN at the service of US interests, after which one could talk, too, of the real strengthening of its influence in the world.

Here are two of the latest reports on the matter. A bill has already been introduced in US Congress to halt aid to any country which votes at the UN in fear of oil prices not in unison with the USA. It was recently announced in Tokyo that an agreement had been reached during talks between US Undersecretary of State, M. Armistead, and Japanese deputy foreign minister S. Aso on the provision by the two nations, of economic aid to developing countries primarily for supporting pro-Western regimes.

As a reminder, Washington's "punitive action" against the UN was warmly welcomed in Tokyo. It is not ruled out that they will find common ground, too, on the question of recruiting votes with the help of an "economic crunch."

Yuri KURITSYN



VIEWPOINT

USA again sabotaging UN

The US Congress is nurturing an idea to legitimize the practice of economic sanctions against states which would not agree to unreservedly support America at the UN, specifically, to deprive them of credits and economic aid.

The measure of the "punishment" will depend on how often any one country votes in dissonance with the USA. Washington has calculated that, in the case of the overwhelming majority of developing countries, this happens in more than 80 out of 100 cases. They are primarily the target of the new Congressional legislative initiative.

The fact that business cooperation on the world arena has been turned by the USA into such a disreputable weapon of foreign policy has long been an open secret. But the contrast—that is a fitting word—of this weapon inside the UN is particularly inadmissible, for it undermines the very basis of normal relations and law and order in the world.

1985, which has been declared by the world community as the Year of the UN, a year of active actions to strengthen the Organization and enhance its role in solving global problems in the interests of all countries and peoples, has barely chalked four months. But the US administration has already managed to do

a unique disservice to this cause. It started this Year by withdrawing from UNESCO and threatening to deprive UNCTAD, UNICEF and other specialized UN bodies of material support.

The destructive character of this approach to the task of strengthening the UN is obvious, and it has generated worldwide condemnation. The press and official circles in dozens of states see these US actions as a sabotage against the UN and an attempt to destroy international cooperation in spheres most important for the developing countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America, as an insulting challenge to these countries.

Washington does not hide the reasons for its discontent with the UN. According to America, there are now too many "small" states having, in conformity with the UN Charter, similar rights as "great" ones and the USA itself, which is aspiring to become leader of the world. These "small" countries, together with socialist states, together with the UN to achieve the restructuring—on a new, democratic and fair basis—of the world economic and information order and thus put an end to the domination of imperialism, including America, of these crucial spheres of human activity. Judging from statements by official representatives of the Amer-

ican administration, Washington is extremely irritated by the criticisms leveled at it in the UN for its support for such permanent violators of world peace as Israel and South Africa. Its open hostility towards the national liberation struggles of peoples, for its "interfering" with the most reactionary regimes.

In general the well-known US aspiration is that unlike all other nations, it is never content with just a "place under the sun" but seeks an opportunity to take possession of the sun and everything belonging to mankind, and to use them at its own discretion, and for its own selfish ends.

It is generally known that Washington has little concern for the authority of the UN, its resolutions and recommendations. This accounts, in a large measure, for the still unsolved crucial problems which have direct bearing on the national interests of the absolute majority of UN members. These are issues such as the cessation of the arms race and disarmament, elimination of the economic backwardness of young independent states and remnants of colonialism and racism, etc.

Why then has the issue of "recruitment" of votes at the

THE WORLD

Present to Afghan schoolchildren

Kabul. The first batch of various goods and equipment for classrooms and residences has been given as a present to the Afghan schoolchildren at a ceremony at the Central Boarding School in Kabul.

This humane action has been carried out in keeping with a decision taken by the Soviet Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee, the Soviet Women's Committee and the Soviet Peace Fund to grant material assistance to Afghan children whose parents perished in the fight against the counter-revolutionaries.

CHINA'S REFORM IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Peking. A resolution on a reform in the management of the sphere of science and technology has been issued by the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China. It says that the aim of the reform is to speed up the introduction of scientific and technological achievements in production on which, it stresses, depends the implementation of the programme for modernization on the whole. It is noted that the present system involved in the management of science and technology is suffering from serious defects. In order to remove these drawbacks it is necessary to change the procedure for financing the scientific and research works, to promote the efforts by scientific establishments, colleges, universities, and industries, to create conditions favourable for rational promotion of scientific studies and to use economic le-

Among other things, the resolution points out that the technical achievements have become an independent type of commodity which exists in the shape of knowledge and therefore it is necessary to create a technical market as a component of "a unified socialist commodity market". The resolution points out that "this will allow to alleviate a transfer of achievements in science and technology into the sphere of production."

Privatization of West German industries

Bonn. The Federal Cabinet of Ministers has taken a decision about the so-called privatization of a number of the country's major industries. This measure means a reduction in the number of the shares of these industries belonging to the state. The most manufacturing concern, Volkswagen, in which the state holds twenty per cent of the shares will be owned by private interests to the extent of 80 per cent.

Because of the illness of the

Chairman of the Bavarian Christian Social Union Franz Josef Strauss, it has been decided to postpone the decision on privatization of the Luftwaffe airline 80 per cent of whose shares belong to the state. It is suggested that fifty per cent of the Luftwaffe airline shares should belong to private owners. Two major credit offices, which have until now been entirely in the hands of the government will from now on partly belong to private shareholders.

form and took his identification card, which precisely helped cheat the bank guards. According to the "Tokyo Shimbun", the raid was the tenth serious criminal offence made over three months of the year by Japanese policeman.

The scandal around this incident produced so much noise that even Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone had to raise and rant against the police in Parliament, claiming that they have completely lost shame.



Israeli soldiers are continuing their punitive operations against peaceful civilians in a number of villages in Southern Lebanon. Innocent civilians are dying at the hands of the Zionist hangmen engaged in these barbarous acts.
A Southern Lebanese village after being rampaged by Israeli thugs.
Photo Reuters-TASS

RESTORING LAW AND ORDER BOTH WAY

Harare. The South African President P.W. Botha who was addressing parliament, has said that the government has worked out measures for the restoration of law and order in the country and has ordered their enforcement. In the racist's jargon this means tougher measures against progressive organisations and worsening of reprisals against the African majority.

Botha has let it be known that he will not tolerate protests against the police brutality which resulted in the deaths of 37 Africans over the past week. The indignation among the democratic circles in South Africa with the shooting of peaceful demonstrators has been described by Botha as an attempt to sow disobedience, violence and destruction under cover of moral and religious principles. The head of the regime has demanded that the Parliamentarians should stop any discussion of the shootings in the Cape Province, particularly the killings of peaceful civilians on the town of Langa.

BIRD RESERVE

A decision has been taken to set up a bird reserve in the union territory of New Delhi (India). It will occupy an area of one hundred hectares near the ruins of majestic Tughlakabad, a fortress town which stood at the southern border of the present Indian capital in the 14th century.

OF INTEREST

Ferretting out puzzles

A crossword tournament took place recently in Los Angeles (USA). In two days 50 participants tackled the puzzles. To win the finals it was necessary to get seven puzzles correctly. The winner was Stanley Newman of New York. Competing with two opponents, he coped with the complicated crossword puzzles of 64 words in seven and a half minutes and won a prize of 500 dollars. Five years ago he was the winner of the first US open championship in crossword.

Museum of walking sticks

Probably this museum in the Lushan village, Brunt district of the GDR, is the only one of its kind. Its inhabitants have for nearly 200 years been engaged in the production of various walking and other sticks for disabled persons, tourists and hunters. Eleven craftsmen turn out 250 sticks of different forms and sizes a year. Each of them has to perform 40 operations, including the preparation of the material, bending, drying and varnishing before the place of wood turns into a

Light and elegant walking stick. The best out of the old and modern items have become exhibits in the local museum.

Lucky angler

A rare success attended this amateur angler from the Japanese prefecture of Chiba. He managed to catch in the Tokyo Bay a giant sea perch weighing 60 kg and 150 cm long. Even experienced old residents, who keep in memory numerous stories involving anglers, do not remember a case when such a giant was caught by means of ordinary amateur tackle.

FROM the SOVIET PRESS

'STAR WARS' APOSTLES

A. Mozgovoi writes in SOVIETSKAYA ROSSIYA about the two-year-old "strategic defence initiative" put forward by President Reagan.

The propaganda machine of the White House is trying to create the impression that the motive force behind this concept of the head of the American administration is the desire to rid the world from the threat of a nuclear conflict. What is more, the "strategic defence initiative" is advertised as nearly a divine inspiration which has descended on a new Messiah in the person of the American president.

But the Pharisees in Washington have not succeeded in turning the negative into positive. In the United States itself Reagan's "strategic initiative" has been baptized as the "star wars programme". Wars, and not peace, mind you, as the functionaries from the citrines of the American president are vainly trying to prove.

In effect, the "shield" which the American militarists intend to erect over the United States is needed not to dump nuclear missiles into the scrap-yard, but to use them with greater effect.

LEBANON'S BLOODY SPRING

The Israeli punitive operations carried out in March, this year, in Southern Lebanon are justified in Tel Aviv as having been necessitated by the need "to protect the lives of Israeli soldiers", writes Igor Belyaev in LITRATURNAYA GAZETA. What is really behind this by their punitive measures, the totally unjustified cruelty in the occupied part of that Arab country, the Israeli politicians and military seem to dictate to the president and the government who are firmly protecting the interests of the Lebanese: accept the conditions for our "withdrawal", that is, cede your sovereignty and part of your territory, and begin to lead normal life immediately.

Should the Peking government succeed in Lebanon there would be another precedent of "supra-state peace" in the Middle East. This is what Israel dreams of, so does the United States.

TOPSY-TURVY DEMOCRACY

The other day, Vladimir Bolshakov writes in PRAVDA, an Israeli tank shot point blank at the car with a CBS television crew to prevent them from telling the world about a new massacre in Southern Lebanon by the Israelis. Tel Aviv's statement that the tank had been among the crowd multitude was confirmed by nobody but... the US president.

Similar facts can be cited now and again, and all of them are a cogent indication of the fact that hypocrisy has been elevated to the political practice in Washington. The MX first strike missile is dubbed "peacekeeper", the militarization of outer space is referred to as "defence initiative", the CIA secret war against Nicaragua and Afghanistan—"aid to freedom fighters". But where the lots of hundreds of thousands of Americans who find themselves without unemployment benefits, is concerned, the president says that they should rely on themselves alone. And let no one be cheated by what the president meant when he said that the citizens of the free world "are warmed" by the "hot rays of democracy". This is just the democracy of the moneybags which brings endless sufferings, bloodshed and calamities to millions of working-class peoples and whole nations.

EVERYONE BEARS HIS CROSS

In the rumble of battles over the MX missiles and the administration's military programmes, one development has passed almost unnoticed even though it might have immediate consequences for the development of the United States, writes Valentin Felin in the daily IZVESTIA. Recently, the US Supreme Court, voting with seven votes against two has decided that the law which restricts the size of the financial contributions which political action committees can make to the presidential campaign funds passed in the wake of the Watergate scandal is a violation of the "freedom of speech" although the contributions are actually tantamount to bribing voters. Of no avail have been Judge B. White's attempts to convince his colleagues that the "right to speak up" is not the same as the "right to spend money".

Perhaps, he would be right if it were another country (India). It will occupy an area of one hundred hectares near the ruins of majestic Tughlakabad, a fortress town which stood at the southern border of the present Indian capital in the 14th century.

Museum

of walking sticks

Probably this museum in the Lushan village, Brunt district of the GDR, is the only one of its kind. Its inhabitants have for nearly 200 years been engaged in the production of various walking and other sticks for disabled persons, tourists and hunters. Eleven craftsmen turn out 250 sticks of different forms and sizes a year. Each of them has to perform 40 operations, including the preparation of the material, bending, drying and varnishing before the place of wood turns into a

Light and elegant walking stick. The best out of the old and modern items have become exhibits in the local museum.

Lucky angler

A rare success attended this amateur angler from the Japanese prefecture of Chiba. He managed to catch in the Tokyo Bay a giant sea perch weighing 60 kg and 150 cm long. Even experienced old residents, who keep in memory numerous stories involving anglers, do not remember a case when such a giant was caught by means of ordinary amateur tackle.

Round the Soviet Union

● A POWERFUL JET OF MINERAL WATER GUSHED NEAR THE VILLAGE OF ZAMANKUL IN NORTH OSSETIA. Chemically it resembles the famous Yessentuki, and, due to its richness in microelements, will be widely used for various treatments. Drilling work is now under way to add more curative wells to the existing 250 springs in the republic.

● NARYN, THE BIGGEST RIVER IN KIRGHIZIA, HAS BEEN CROSSED BY A FIFTH DAM. The river was channelled via a temporary tunnel at the site of the future Tash-Kumyr hydropower station. The station will produce 1,700 million kilowatt-hours of electric energy every year.

● "THE LAY OF IGOR'S HOST," THE MOST FAMOUS EARLY RUSSIAN LITERARY SOURCE, WAS WRITTEN EXACTLY 800 YEARS AGO. To mark its anniversary new publications of the "Lay" are planned, a museum is soon to be open, and an exposition sponsored by enthusiasts can soon be seen at the All-Russia Museum of Decorative and Applied Art.

● THE MINSK TRACTOR FACTORY HAS BEGUN TO PRODUCE THE MTZ-100 TRACTOR, the first of a new generation of high-performance agricultural machines.

SALMON EGGS FLY TO PARIS

A chartered plane recently took off from Kamchatka to deliver 30 thousand fish eggs of kizhuch, a Pacific salmon, to Paris.

Kamchatka specialists have been rendering help in salmon farming to centres in the Baltic area, Karelia, the Caspian, as well as to Japan, the USA and some other countries, including France.

FROM THE SOVIET PRESS

GOVERNMENT CONCERN FOR FAMILIES

The protection of motherhood and childhood, moral and material assistance to families have become a state policy, writes *IKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA*. Every year, considerable amount of money from the state budget is spent on the payment of grants to mothers, on education and services to children, in addition to sums invested by the government, cooperative, trade union and other public organizations.

In 1985, expenditure on various grants to mothers reached 4.8 thousand million roubles, while spendings on children in kindergartens, creches, and Pioneer camps stood at 8.5 thousand million roubles. The number of children in kindergartens and creches has increased more than 5.5 times since 1960. Today, various pre-school establishments are attended by 16 million children.

In 1985, nearly 15 million children are expected to spend their summer holidays at Pioneer camps, with every second accommodation offered free of charge. The rest will be on discount, with the extra expenses borne by trade unions.

ENERGY FOR AGRICULTURE

The CPSU daily *PRAVDA* writes that progress in agriculture or intensification of agricultural production is impossible without a solid energy base. A rapid growth in the generation capacity of the nuclear, thermal and hydroelectric stations and further improvements in the Unified Energy System embracing the entire Soviet Union have speeded up electrification of the countryside. It has thus become possible to provide sufficient energy for every enterprise in the agroindustrial complex. Over the past twenty years, the total volume of electricity consumption in the complex has increased more than six times.

Further mechanization and automation of arduous agricultural jobs meet the urgent needs of land and

MILITARY ORCHESTRAS



The First Separate Demonstration Orchestra of the USSR Ministry of Defence is conducted by Nikolai Mikhailov. ● The orchestra performing at the stadium.

The 40th anniversary of the Victory over fascism Germany is drawing closer with every passing day. Soviet people and their Armed Forces will solemnly mark this jubilee. As it is usually done on major holidays music will be heard everywhere. Military orchestras will surely play at solemn functions.

During parades and other military functions performances by military orchestras traditionally attract audiences of different age groups. Sounds of marches always add to the austere beauty of the celebrations.

Today the repertoire of military orchestras includes marches and symphonies, songs, cantatas and oratorios. For example, the repertoire of the

First Separate Demonstration Orchestra of the USSR Ministry of Defence (led by Major-General Nikolai Mikhailov) contains symphonies by Tchaikovsky and Beethoven, an overture to Glazunov's "Ruslan and Lyudmila", overtures "Festive" by Shostakovich and "Solemn" by Shchedrin. There are also piano concertos by Rachmaninov, as well as works by Grieg, Schumann, Khachaturian, Sviridov and many other composers. They are mostly heroic and patriotic works.

Many Soviet military orchestras are often invited for guest performances. For example, the orchestra led by Nikolai Mikhailov tours dozens of Soviet cities and towns and has visited France, Switzerland, Norway and the socialist countries.

New power unit at Smolenskaya atomic power station

The second power unit of the basic configuration of the Smolenskaya atomic power station will soon go into operation. Tests of turbogenerators with a total capacity of one million

kilowatts have started. Work is being completed in the central reactor room. Monitoring and measuring instruments are being adjusted and soon be put into continuous operation.

As soon as the second unit goes into operation, the station's capacity will double. Work has started on a building for the second part of the station.

animal farming and help improve the cultural and living standards for rural employees. Additional electricity makes it easier for the farms to raise the efficiency of their economy.

This year alone, the increase in the generation of electricity will stand at fifty-five thousand million kilowatt-hours. It is planned to commission new power blocks at the Balakovo, Zaporozhye, Kursk and Smolensk nuclear power projects. New turbines of the Sayano-Shushenskaya, Malina, Belpuga and Tash-Kumyr HEPs will generate their first current.

MAN AND THE FAR NORTH

In the Far North where climate is severe the living conditions of people, the problem of preserving their health and capacity to work, have a special significance. To prevent diseases typical of this region is the aim of a special scientific programme now under implementation.

Activities carried out within its framework are described in the newspaper *TRUD* by Vyacheslav Khasulin, head of the laboratory of Polar medicine, Siberian Branch of the Academy of Medical Sciences.

Fifteen scientific research centres in the country are participating in this programme. In conjunction with public organizations in Norilsk, they have elaborated and are implementing large-scale measures ranging from safety engineering to socio-cultural and daily conditions of the working people and their families. This includes the construction of new sanatoriums and sports centres, and transportation will also be improved. In a word, everything that helps people preserve and strengthen their health in the severe conditions of the Polar regions will be provided.

Close cooperation of doctors and scientists makes it possible to quickly put into practice recommendations from fundamental and applied research.

Thus, for instance, scientists have come to the conclusion that Northerners suffering from cardiovascular diseases and other chronic ailments better relax in the temperate zone.

That is why, on the recommendations of specialists an industrial combine has built its own sanatorium accommodating eight hundred people at a distance of 100 km from Norilsk (Moscow Region). As a result of cooperation between scientists and doctors in Norilsk, respiratory, liver, and nervous disorders have gone down.

'THE GREEN DRUGSTORE'

Despaired that their diseases will never be cured, some people begin to believe that the best medicine is that which has never been used before, Sergei Solov, head of the laboratory of pharmacology at the All-Union Research Institute of Pharmaceutical Plant, writes in the newspaper, *SIBIRSKAYA ZHIZN*. Very often, at times like this, they remember the herb tea about omnipotent herbs which allegedly work miracles. Treatment with herbs has had many centuries of practical application. History testifies, however, that ancient nor Medieval doctors with the advanced remedies by using herbs alone, the medical science of chemistry and other sciences, the medical science has been replenished with tens of new preparations, they have made it easier to combat many ailments which were previously regarded as incurable. The medicine of these preparations is an historical landmark in the development of medicine. It would also be wrong to forget that many strong drugs like reserpine, anaphrodisiac, and atropine are obtained from herbs.

Very often, the application of herbs increases the therapeutic effect of various medicines. Thus, when the curative effect of various medicines is weak, it is why it would not do to counteract the disease with emergency aid is needed, the doctor prescribes, as a rule, strong individual chemical preparations. In such cases, it would be more appropriate to use a mild effect. If the disease is a light catarrh, mild ailments of the stomach and digestive tract and other ailments, the use of herbs is always preferable. However, only a qualified doctor can correctly orient himself in the multitude of curatives.

TECHNOLOGIES FOR COAL PIT

The Uralmash Association started the production of machines with hydraulic equipment. From here, the excavator with a hydraulic dipper is already being sold to customers.

The productivity of the excavator is much greater than that of the cable-type digger and beam crane digging of pure rock and less soil. Neither is it needed to clear the way; the machine itself does the loading of rocks has no easier, which means longer life for the machine. It has a more comfortable way to operate.

That the hydraulic excavator has a good future is not only by their high productivity and technological qualities, but also by their manufacture (the EG-20 is one and a half times lighter than the cable excavator). The design of the enterprise has worked on more powerful hydraulic machines.

Energy as a resource

Prospecting work is being carried out on the steep banks of the Volga River, between the cities of Novochokovsk and Kizlyarsk for the construction of a pumped station.

The Volga water will be filled by wide-diameter pipes with an elevation of 100 m, accumulated in the upper part. At the hours of peak coming rushing down the upper basin to the lower will put into action the turbines.

Durable concretes

Water treated with sound can increase the strength of concrete. This has been found by researchers at the Khabarovsk and Highways Institute. They have already found applications for new technology reducing consumption of cement and electricity by more than 10 per cent.

PEACE BANNER FOR WAR VETERANS

The World Peace Council (WPC) has conferred an honorary award—Peace Banner—on the Soviet Committee of War Veterans. This was announced by the WPC President Romesh Chandra during his meeting in Moscow with the Committee's leadership. He highly commended the activities of Soviet

war veterans aimed at preventing the threat of a nuclear catastrophe.

Romesh Chandra and members of the President of the WPC were informed about the campaign being undertaken by the Committee towards the celebration of the 40th anniversary of the Great Victory.

Science and technology

PROTEIN RESOURCES WILL GO UP

New varieties of crops with high protein content, raised by experts at the All-Union Plant-Breeding and Genetics Institute in Odessa, will help enrich the daily diet of animals. They have raised a soya-bean Arkadya, which contains more protein than its forerunners. Selected seeds have been dispatched to the seed-growing farms in the Black Sea area and other climatic zones for reproduction.

Plant-breeders have endowed Arkadya with a number of valuable biological and economic properties. It ripens early, yields 2,400 kg of beans per hectare (400 kg more than other varieties). The new breed withstanding droughts and is fit for cultivation both on irrigated land and is good for dry farming. The country's farmers have also been supplied with the seeds of new high-quality varieties, and hybrids of barley, maize, sorgo and lucerne meant to overcome the shortage of protein additives to the fodder of animals and raise their productivity.

Experiments to determine the possibility of growing new varieties in conditions of production are being conducted on plots of specialized farms and on more than 40 collective and state farms in the country. This helps considerably speed up the introduction of valuable new varieties.

Soviet Union-Italy: cooperation in medicine

The Soviet Union and Italy intend to expand cooperation in medical research. Programmes of joint work in the field of cardiology, diseases, oncology, pharmacology and biochemistry will be supplemented with joint studies into other major problems of medical science. These are: physiotherapy, treatment of health resorts, orthopedics, virology and neurophysiology. It is also planned to exchange experience in organizing public health services. All these subjects have been included into the plan of cooperation of the two countries in 1985-1986.

This arrangement was made in keeping with the terms of the protocol of the 4th session of the Mixed Soviet-Italian Working Group on Medicine and Public Health. The session drew to a close in Moscow. The document was signed by health ministers of the two countries Sergei Nurekov and Constantino Degan.

Constantino Degan spoke with appreciation of the meetings he had in Moscow. It is gratifying, he said, to sign a document which calls for scaled-up cooperation in medicine and public health. We visited several research centres and clinics in the Soviet capital and saw many things of use and interest to us. I believe that the work carried out by Italian researchers will also attract the attention of our partners, he said.

Riga—a centre of WHO

The emblem of the World Health Organization (WHO) is placed next to the sign of the computing centre of Latvia's public health ministry. A WHO centre for using computer systems in medicine began functioning in the capital of that Soviet Baltic republic. Riga is the fourth such centre; the other three are in France, Sweden and Japan.

Our interests are mutual, Salah Mandil, director of the department of information systems of WHO headquarters in Geneva, said at the opening ceremony of the Centre. The Soviet side gets access to development projects on problems of informatics conducted by WHO departments. We want to use the experience of Soviet colleagues in automatic processing of information, registration of demand and distribution of drugs, investigate the criteria of collecting and processing information.

Places to visit

ANCIENT RAMPARTS IN NOVGOROD



The Novgorod Kremlin (called Detinets in earlier times) is an architectural monument of Ancient Rus. Built almost ten centuries ago on the steep bank overlooking the Volkhov River, it was a rather formidable defence.

Originally, the Kremlin was built with huge logs, a reliable protection from enemy arrows and spears but not from fire. So stone courses were gradually added to it.

Novgorod architecture had many distinguishing features right from the start. Monumentality, laconism, minimum of decor were its major points. All this is rather notable in the Kremlin and its palatial chambers, cathedrals and churches. The interiors were lavishly decorated by frescoes. Novgorod which was not hounded by the Tatar-Mongols was a keeper of early Russian heritage for many centuries.

Today, one can hear bells ringing and axes striking at the wood-restorers are working there.

Over the years the earthenwork and the ditch were thickly overgrown with trees and bushes, preventing the old walls and towers from being seen. Moscow architects have worked out the reconstruction project for the Kremlin park. The Novgorod Kremlin will soon be seen in all its grandeur.

● The Detinets Restaurant in the Pokrovsky Tower of the Novgorod Kremlin. The interior is styled after Russian motifs.

VIEWPOINT

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PROBLEMS IN THE HOUSING PROGRAMME

Alexei DUMOV

It was originally planned for the current five-year plan period (1981-1985) to build 630 million square metres of housing or ten million flats and one-family houses. But, in fact, 24 million more square metres of housing will be constructed, in other words, an entire town for two million people will be built additionally.

The Soviet Union believes that the provision of accommodation facilities for the population should not depend on people's incomes. The right of Soviet citizens to have housing, as laid down in Article 44 of the USSR Constitution, is ensured by a number of guarantees. Among the basic ones are the development and protection of state and public housing funds, low housing rent and unceasing municipal services.

Tenants do not spend any money to compensate construction costs. On the average, the population's expenses on rent and municipal services do not exceed three per cent of the incomes earned by families of industrial and office employees. Rent payments cover less than one-third of all the expenses borne by the state on maintenance and repairs of housing.

Another important guarantee of the rights of citizens for housing is the assistance offered to cooperative and individual housing construction. Those who join construction cooperatives and build houses of their own are granted large government mortgages. Cooperative members are granted seventy to eighty per cent of the cost involved in the construction of their flats. The mortgage covers a period of up to 25 years with 0.5 per cent annual interest. There are a number of other concessions.

Another important factor is that land is given free of charge, regardless of whether the construction is cooperative or individual. Land in the Soviet Union cannot be either bought or sold.

Nearly three-quarters of all new flats are built with money from government or public funds. Living in a house like this a Soviet citizen finds himself free of anxieties and worries which are the lot of tenants in the capitalist world.

In the Soviet Union flats are allocated to tenants for good and are automatically passed on to their next of kin. In most cases, the tenant is free to exchange his flat for another (which he considers more convenient), in the same or another city. Tenants never have to move from their flats except when the house is to be pulled down or rebuilt. In such cases, they are allocated flats in other houses. Failure to pay one's rent is no justification for eviction, as the problem is settled through courts. Such cases come before courts exceptionally rarely, as the rent is very low.

The housing problem has not yet been solved because of the colossal damage caused by World War II, rapid growth in urban populations and the continuing resettlement of rural residents from isolated hamlets to bigger villages. Besides, there are growing requirements in housing standards.

At the same time, the gravity of this problem which is still felt by many—particularly young people share flats with their parents or live in houses built long years in the current five-year period (1981-1985). Housing conditions will be improved for fifty million people.

Theatre, Cinema and TV Stars

VLADISLAV VERESTNIKOV



He was lucky. After his enrolment he performed the part of Guglielmo in the premiered opera by Mozart "Così fan tutte". The opera is very difficult to perform: it has many arias, ensembles, duets and quartets. He had to work hard. It was practically the singer's first meeting with music by Mozart. Here, also, he faced the difficulties of stage movement for the first time. It was famous choreographers Natalya Kasatkina and Vladimir Vasilyov, producers of the opera, who gave him a helping hand. He coped with the part of the youthfully ardent and enthusiastic Guglielmo.

Soon the singer took part in another new production — an opera by Maurice Ravel "L'Heure espagnole" where he sang the part of Ramiro the mute driver. Then followed the parts of Sergeant Morales and tenebrous Escamillo in the new production of Bizet's "Carmen".

Efficiency, hard work, and immense love for opera art enabled him, within a short period in the "academy of music", create different images: cruel and heartless Baron Scarpia in "Tosca", strict Onegin in "Eugene Onegin", romantic and courageous Renato in "Un ballo in maschera" and noble aristocrat Germont in "La Traviata". The singer himself admits that he likes to appear in Verdi's operas. They are in keeping with his nature, character and voice. His fascinating melodious voice attracts audiences. His lyrical-dramatic baritone is magnificent both in the leading and minor parts, which are also difficult to perform.

Vladislav Verestnikov also appears in concerts but he believes that the main thing for an opera singer is to perform in theatre productions. Vladislav thinks that only on the opera stage, and without the use of microphones, can the singer display the beauty of his voice. The impression fades away otherwise. I believe that an opera singer should belong solely to the opera stage and not to variety.

Verestnikov's immediate plans include the part of Count Luna in Verdi's "Il Trovatore" and the part of Iago in "Othello", another famous work by the composer.

Margarita ANOKHINA

● Vladislav Verestnikov as Agamemnon in the opera "Iphigenia on Aulide".

Photo by Andrei Stepanov

'Pallas and a Centaur' on display

Only one picture comprises a show opened in the Leningrad Hermitage. This is the renowned painting of Sandro Botticelli "Pallas and a Centaur". This work by the famous painter of the epoch of the early Renaissance was brought to Leningrad from the Galleria degli Uffizi in Florence.

The display of the painting, which dates back to the end of the 15th century, was organized in accordance with an agreement on scientific and cultural exchange concluded between the two museums. Shortly before that the painting "Madon-

na With a Flower" by Leonardo da Vinci was sent to Uffizi from Leningrad. Now being displayed with great success in Italian cities is an exhibition of works by French impressionists from the collections of the Hermitage and Pushkin Museum of Fine Arts.

'Melodies of Friends'

"In the Glittering Lights of Victory Fireworks" — is the motto of the international variety concert show, "Melodies of Friends", now going on in Tallinn, the capital of Estonia. Taking part in the programme, alongside their Soviet colleagues,

are performers from Cuba, Bulgaria, Poland, Romania, Czechoslovakia, the GDR, Hungary, Vietnam and Mongolia. The performances which are dedicated to the 40th anniversary of the Great Victory, will also be held in Moscow, Leningrad, Riga and Rostov-on-Don.

An exhibition of Eduardo Kalinina has opened at the exhibition hall of the USSR Academy of Arts in Moscow. Kalinina is an artist who loves the sea and has painted it for sixty years. All the stages in the life and work of the famous marine painter are reflected in his paintings. There are more than 170 of them on display including land and sea scenes, still lifes, and genre scenes. The artist who went out to sea on many occasions himself, witnessed confrontation between natural phenomena and men.



That is why Kalinina is fond of saying, "The sea is difficult to cope with not only for sailors". His works confirm the truth of his words. Some of the paintings on display are those which convey his impressions during his visits to Italy, India, and Japan.

- "Red-Makers."
- "Windy Evening."

VICTORY DAY ON CANVASES

Heroic deeds of the Soviet people in the anti-Nazi struggle have determined the basic trends in creative activities of Soviet artists on the eve of the 40th anniversary of Victory in the Great Patriotic War (1941-1945). An all-Russia arts show entitled "Peace We Have Defended, Peace We Shall Preserve", which is now on at the Moscow's Central Exhibition Hall, is just the beginning of a series of shows dedicated to this jubilee. An all-Union exhibition of a similar profile will open in late April at the same hall.

A traditional Week of Fine Art, to be held in Leningrad this

year, will centre around the country's defence and patriotic education subjects. The holiday itineraries will cover the battle fields. Meetings of artists who are veterans of war will take place within the framework of the festivities.

Later this year Moscow will be a venue for an international exhibition entitled "40 Years After Victory". Soviet artists, dealing with the past war, will be the Soviet people's struggle for peace on Earth, will also be sent to Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Cuba and the GDR.

JUBILEE OF 'DANCING ACTRESS'

A ballet soiree devoted to the 40th anniversary of creative activity of the famous Soviet ballerina, Violetta Bovi was recently held at the Stanislavsky and Nemirovich-Danchenko Moscow Musical Theatre. The start of 1945 she appeared for the first time on the stage of the Theatre in Pushkinskaya Street. Virtuoso techniques, a rare expressiveness of movement, smoothness and natural dance, the ability to create character, show its development — these are the qualities that always mark the art of Violetta Bovi, whom both critics and audiences call a "dancing actress". For five years Bovi has been the Theatre's ballet master. The programme of the jubilee soiree included scenes from the best plays in her repertoire. On the stage were pupils. Her merit as a teacher lies in the fact that she successfully uncovers the unique abilities in each of them. Taking turns at dancing were youthful and gifted but so different ballerinas Svetlana Smirnova, Margarita Lyovina, Alla Artyushkina-Khmelinskaya, Nadezhda Trubnikova, Tatyana Trankvillinskaya, and Vera Beresina.



● At the creative soiree of Violetta Bovi.

WHAT'S ON?

March 30-April 1

THEATRES

Bolshevik Theatre (Sverdlov Sq.). 30 (mat) — Double-bill: Rimsky-Korsakov, "Mozart and Salieri" (opera); Tchaikovsky, "Iolanta" (opera); 30 (eve) — Khachatryan, "Spartacus" (ballet); 31 (mat) — Rimsky-Korsakov, "The Snow Maiden" (opera); 31 (eve) — Glazunov, "Raisa" (ballet).

Stanislavsky and Nemirovich-Danchenko Musical Theatre (17 Pushkinskaya St.). 30 (mat) — Yurovsky, "Crimson Sails" (ballet); 30 (eve) — Verdi, "La Battaglia di Legnano" (opera); 31 (mat) — Morozov, "Doctor Doolittle" (ballet); 31 (eve) — Strauss, "Der Zigeunerbaron". 1 — Pugni, Gilere, Vasilenko, "Emeralda".

Operetta Theatre (6 Pushkinskaya St.). 30 (mat) — Milyutin, "Girls in a Flurry". 31 (mat, aft) — Double-bill: Casagrande, "Pinocchio's Adventures"; Khramnikov, "Children From Our Backyard". 31 (eve) — Kremer, "Catherine". 1 — Strauss, "Die Fledermaus".

FILMS

Here Comes Bumbo (LCC Studios). Based on well-known fairy tale by Kypria "A Centaur and an Elephant" and in earlier stories about centaurs. The film tells about the adventures of a courageous centaur and the inner beauty of a young girl.

Cinema: "Salyut". 30 (mat, aft) — Soyuzdetfilm, "The Cheeky". Master of Time (Finist). A full-length cartoon in which action takes place in the distant future. It is about adventures of a courageous aviator Jaffar.

Cinema: Central Cinema (25 Sakhrinskaya St.). Metro Pavlovskaya. Master of Time (Finist). A full-length cartoon in which action takes place in the distant future. It is about adventures of a courageous aviator Jaffar.

EXHIBITIONS

Exhibition Hall. USSR Academy of Arts (27 Krasnaya St.). An exhibition of works by Latvian painter Ruda.

'Agroitalia-85' still in progress

The exhibition "Agroitalia-85" is still going on at the Moscow Krasnaya Presnya complex. Most of the participating firms are long-standing partners of the USSR (only 40 of the 224 are in the country for the first time).

It is hard to count the number of times I have visited the USSR, says president of the FATA European Group, Gaetano Di Rosa, for we have been cooperating with your country for a quarter of a century now. I must stress that it is pleasant to trade with Soviet organizations — these are serious and business-like partners. At the current show we represent 12 firms engaged in conserving, processing, storing and packaging foodstuffs. Nearly all of them are known on the Soviet market.

The FATA Group has carried out a number of large projects in the USSR in recent years. For instance, our devices for packaging foodstuffs are being assembled in Moscow and Leningrad.

Nearing completion are talks on a new big contract — delivery to the USSR of lines for producing milk which may be stored for at least six months. This technology developed by our partner — the Permatel firm — will be used for the first time in the USSR.

In 1980, during the Vinitalia show, we established our first contacts with Soviet partners, says managing director of the Technical Consortium Giancarlo Panella. This has developed into multilateral cooperation. Today our machines are operating in many Soviet cities. For instance, in 1981 we supplied two automatic lines for bottling champagne in Moscow and Frunze. In turn our consortium has bought a Soviet licence on an accelerated champagne method. Incidentally, we will present it in March at a congress in Italy devoted to the technology of producing quality champagne.

Omnia Nuova has long been known in this country. At the exhibition, we are showing a line for grading, packaging and weighing vegetables, said the firm's head, Lucia Driffo Vlahovic. Already on the first day talks

began on its procurement. I hope that a contract will be signed and then the USSR will be provided with four more such lines. In recent years the amount of deliveries to the USSR has steadily increased and now it is within the range of eight and ten million dollars a year on average.

The Italian state concern Finmeccanica represents two firms at the show. One of them, VM, says head of the Moscow office Leonardo Pavoni, produces diesel engines. There are possibilities for extensive cooperation in the production of engines on the basis of the firm's methods. Another firm — ITALTRACOR — manufactures parts for caterpillar tracks, agricultural machines and other means of transport. The firm has for several years been selling its products to the USSR. For instance, of its 1984 sales of 55 million dollars, the USSR accounts for seven million.

Represented at the show for the first time is the Roncaglia firm. We produce mill-type installations, says its consultant Carlo Barni, and we want to offer a new original method to Soviet specialists. During the show we will hold a seminar and hope that all this will help begin a mutually beneficial cooperation.

Natalya IZYUMOVA

Ordered by Soviet Union

A new ship ordered by the Soviet Union has been built by the Neptun-Werft shipyards in Rostock. The freighter "Kompositor Mussorgsky", with a hull of 125 metres, is equipped with an air manhole and lifting platform for cars and containers.

The freight ship in the series, which left for its port of registration in Rostock during the summer of 1984, was the Rostock shipyard's 18th model.

SPORTS

HANDBALL

Central Army Club Sports Complex (39 Leningradsky Prospekt). 31 — European Champions Cup. Men. CAC (USSR) vs Lug (Switzerland).

FOOTBALL

Torpedo Stadium (4 Vostochnaya St.). 31 — Moscow Torpedo vs Donetsk Shakhtyor, 5 p.m.

The grass pitch at the Torpedo Stadium is the only one in Moscow. It is warmed from underneath by electricity.

CYCLING

Cycling Track in Krylatskoye (Metro Molodyozhnaya, bus 226). 30 — RSFSR championship. 11 a.m.

WEATHER

March 30-April 1

In Moscow, city and region, on March 30, clear weather with light wet snow and night temperatures of 0°, -5°C and -1°, -3°C during the day. SW wind, 5-10 mps, to 15-18 mps in gusts. On March 31, and April 1, light snow in places, night temperatures of -2°, -3°C and -2°, 7°C during the day. W wind, 5-10 mps, in gusts.

Cooperation of banks

The State Bank of India (SBI) attaches exceptional importance to the promotion of cooperation with the Soviet Union, Nareah Dev, head of its Moscow representation, told an MNII correspondent. The bulk of mutual trade between the two countries is conducted with the participation of the SBI.

The first contacts with the State Bank of the USSR were established in 1959. Correspondence is being maintained with the Vneshtorgbank of the USSR, which has rupee accounts in Bombay, Calcutta and New Delhi branches. In accordance with the existing interbank agreement travelling cheques of the SBI are accepted for payment in the USSR.

Expanding business contacts with Soviet partners, stressed Nareah Dev, we opened our permanent mission in Moscow in 1977. It is accredited with the Board of the State Bank of the USSR. Through its mediation the SBI maintains contacts not only with the Soviet Union but also with the other socialist countries of Europe.

It is important to note, said Nareah Dev, that transactions between our countries, which are of balanced and mutually beneficial nature, are settled in Indian rupees. Therefore, no problems arise in connection with finding freely convertible currency for import payments.

Contacts and contracts

● A regular meeting of the CMEA Standing Commission on Foreign Trade recently took place in Moscow. The meeting discussed the Commission's activities in 1984 and the directions of its further work. Mutual trade of the CMEA countries increased in 1984 by 11 per cent as compared with 1983, i.e. it surpassed the growth of their total foreign trade turnover. As a result the share of their mutual trade in the total foreign turnover continued to grow.

● The 4th session of the Inter-governmental mixed Soviet-Peruvian commission on trade, economic, scientific, and technological cooperation and fishing, recently took place in Moscow. It discussed a wide range of issues relating to these areas as well as air communication and sea transportation. It was emphasized that Soviet-Peruvian economic relations were making headway. The list of Peruvian goods delivered to the Soviet Union, especially of non-traditional Peruvian exports, has considerably increased. A final act was signed when the session concluded its work. Simultaneously with the Peruvian delegation, Moscow hosted a large group of businessmen from Peru who held talks with Soviet export-import organizations.

To understand that people in other countries are very much like us

We thought of attending classes but ended up at a musical — "Mary Poppins" — staged by Moscow schoolchildren. In English, said David Mackey after visiting School No. 22 at the Krasnopresnensky District where several subjects are taught in the English language. He headed a tourist group of pupils from the Ridley College in the Canadian town of St. Catherine to the Soviet Union.

I would be glad if some of my pupils spoke English as your senior pupils do, noted David Mackey, himself an English teacher.

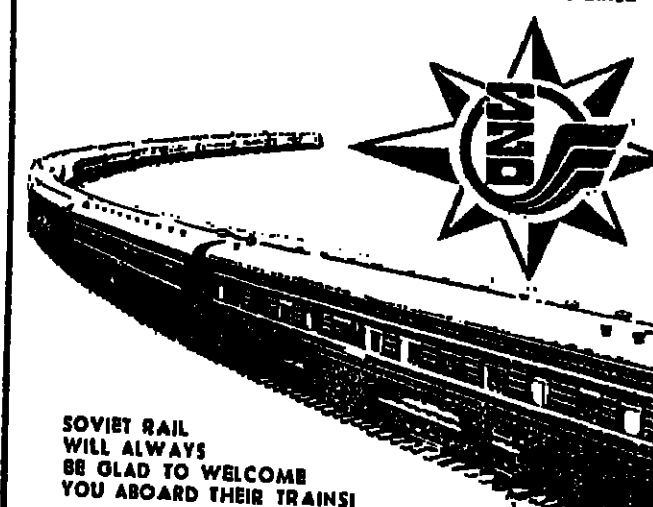
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SOVIET RAILWAYS

Elektrosila equipment in developing countries

The Leningrad association Elektrosila has been manufacturing equipment for hydroelectric stations for many years. For example, it has built water-wheel generators for the Bhakra, Lower Sileru, Mettur Tunnel, Balmora, and other HEPPs in the Republic of India. All in all, according to the 1983 figures, Elektrosila has made equipment with a total capacity of more than 1.5 million kilowatts for seven Indian hydroelectric stations.

Its machines are also mounted at the Aswan hydropower complex in Egypt, and in the near future Syrian specialists will receive three capsule generators with capacity of 27 thousand kilowatts for a regulating dam on the Euphrates River.

Apart from equipment for hydroelectric power stations, the production association makes a wide range of electric machines.

Among other things, Leningrad-made motors and generators enjoy high demand abroad, and large consignments are exported to developing countries. For example, a complex of unique motors has been purchased by Pakistan for a "1700" rolling mill and by India for a "2000" mill. Elektrosila machines are installed at various enterprises in Iran, Iraq, Turkey, Argentina, Brazil, Libya, Ethiopia and many other countries.

Philately

Children's newspaper commemorated



The USSR Ministry of Communications has issued a 5-kopek stamp dedicated to the 60th anniversary of "Pionerskaya Pravda", an all-Union children's newspaper, founded out twice a week.